

John O'Leary reports on the education officers' conference

Student grants 'need new rules'

A new Diploma of Secondary Education should be introduced as a pre-condition for the award of student grants, Mr Harry Judge, professor of education at Bedford University, said at the Society of Education Officers conference in Leeds.

Dr Judge said the new qualification would not entail any interference with the curriculum nor any bureaucratic expense. The Secretary of State for Education, Mr Mark Carlisle, would merely decide on a spread of U levels to accompany each A level as the requirements for the diploma.

By setting a broad range of subjects, ministers could influence the curriculum without direct intervention. "It would change the operational values of the school system," he said.

Dr Judge included the diploma in his list of priorities for the 1980s, the first of which was to renege the way in which the education service sees itself. He urged the education officers to reassert themselves since exaggerated and self-inflating pessimism was one of the greatest dangers on the horizon.

The other major priority was further investment in the First Graduate Certificate in Education and in-service training for teachers, which might have to involve the use of earmarked funds from central government. In spite of its shortcomings, for primary education in particular, the PGCE was a preferable training route to the BED, Dr Judge said and could become the sole teaching qualification.

On the question of student support, Dr Judge repeated his preference for an element of student loans to allow awards to be spread more widely. The Institute of Economic Affairs' study *Grants or Loans* showed that the present system did not command public support, he said.

Mr Dave Aaronovitch, president of the National Union of Students, said public opinion had been grossly misrepresented in the survey, which purported to show that 62 per cent of the public favoured loans. "The authors of the report have made a pathetic, unconvincing attempt to argue the case for student loans using flimsy data," he said.



Professor Harry Judge: diploma

Dean resigns in faculty reshuffle at Coventry

A major reshuffle of social science teaching at Coventry (Lanchester) Polytechnic is to be put into effect from September.

The former social science faculty is being split into two faculties, business and social science, and public policy. The dean has taken sabbatical leave until his resignation in August next year.

Deans of the new faculties are being selected from among the heads of the eight departments involved in the reorganization. Initially the appointment of faculty heads will be for one year while governors keep the restructuring under review.

Polytechnic director Mr Geoffrey Holroyde said the clear intention is that tenure should be for 10 years once the review is complete.

Mr Holroyde described the existing social science faculty as "an ill-assorted collection of disciplines which did not knit together so obviously as, say, engineering."

Governors have linked together the departments of business studies, management, economics, and legal studies into the new faculty of business. The other less obviously associated departments from the old social science faculty are to become the new faculty of social science and public policy.

"Only time will tell if it works," said Mr Holroyde. Associate deans of the new faculties will be selected by a three-member committee to call in before a governors' meeting in September.

Dr Heister has been granted sabbatical leave until the end of August next year, when a resignation becomes effective.

Despite a statement at the end of March by the chairman of Coventry education committee, Councillor Charles Ward, that Dr Heister had been granted sabbatical leave, he did not intend to remain in the polytechnic beyond the beginning of April this year.

The same day *THESE* spoke to a polytechnic, an internal memo confirmed the resignation.

Former colleagues were aware that it should be known that a hearing said to be faced by Dr Heister did not take place. It was cancelled in the light of the resignation, Mr Holroyde said this was clear.

Dr Heister is not prepared to talk about the events, but it is clear he was convinced that weeks after being relieved of his duties no occasion had been brought against him.

Association lays plans to stop threat to television units

Threats to the survival of educational television units in all institutions must be overcome by highlighting the positive value of television, Mr Peter Turner, national chairman of the Educational Television Association, warned his members in the latest *ETA* newsletter.

Mr Turner says the association's membership, which covers all higher education institutions as well as schools, points out that the major threat comes from senior colleagues and administrators in positions of influence. He says that these people are often unaware of the value of television and are not taking it into account when making decisions about the future of their institutions.

Mr Turner says television facilities represent efficient capital expenditure providing a tool which can preserve the effectiveness of teaching and learning in a period of uncertainty.

"Therefore we must transfer our enthusiasm and knowledge of the effectiveness of educational television to those in positions of power, and not let 45 years of expertise in the field be squandered on short-term expediency," he says.

Mr Turner says the association's strategy of "living quiet" which has worked so well in the past is not a policy for the future. He says the association must become more active in its defence of television. He says the association must become more active in its defence of television. He says the association must become more active in its defence of television.

Scots respond to maths shortage

Heriot-Watt University and Craiglockhart College of Education in Edinburgh, with introductions to a new course in response to the grave national shortage of teachers in secondary mathematics.

Students taking the course will be able to take three Part I courses over two or three years, instead of one year full time.

This is the second response by Lancaster in an attempt to solve the university's more chronic local shortage of mathematics teachers.

Professor James Gray, dean of the faculty of science and head of the department of mathematics, said: "I hope this joint initiative will make an effective contribution to the supply of mathematics teachers."

Mr Gray said the course was being introduced to a demand for mathematics teachers in the secondary schools.

Lancaster opens to part-timers

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OU senate backs student campaign for grants

The Open University senate has voted overwhelmingly to back the campaign for mandatory grants currently being fought by the OU Students' Association (OUSA).

The main aim of the student campaign is to secure the Government to give mandatory grants to all part-time students studying higher education courses for the first time. These courses, it is claimed, would automatically attract a mandatory grant.

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North American News

Year of the sunworshippers

from Clive Cookson

WASHINGTON

Although the sun is by far the most important celestial body for life on earth, it has been relatively neglected by scientists until recently. British teams, supported by the science research council, are involved in two of the three X-ray detectors.

Six men from the Mullard space laboratory (part of University College London) and six from the Applikon Laboratory (run by the SRC) are managing the "soft X-ray polychromator", which they built with the Lockheed research laboratory in California. It uses two detectors, known as the bent crystal spectrometer and the flat crystal spectrometer, to examine the hot plasmas (up to 30m degrees) generated as electrons are ripped away from the solar gas at the beginning of a flare.

Four men from the University of Birmingham are cooperating with Dutch scientists from the University of Utrecht in the "Hard X-ray imaging spectrometer". It can detect X-rays from an emerging flare

in extensive black-outs right across the world.

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Colleges 'falling short of the mark' in vocational training

Public community colleges are failing in one of their functions—vocational training, according to a three-year study at the University of California, Los Angeles.

UCLA education professor William Williams followed 1,579 students for 28 months after they enrolled either at a community college or at a proprietary (for-profit) school. He found that the community colleges were failing to provide the vocational training that their students needed.

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very rapidly and send a signal to the other instruments on Solar Max, which then focus on the same spot, so that a movie film of the flare can be obtained at the various different wavelengths.

The seven scientific teams managing the different instruments are all working from offices in the same building at Goddard, and they assemble at least once a day to coordinate plans and discuss findings. "By having everyone collected together here, they have achieved a degree of coordination that is unprecedented for such a complex project," said Christopher Rappley, of the Mullard Laboratory.

So far, the Solar Max scientists have obtained a full range of data on two major flares, which occurred on April 30 and May 21. They have not yet had time to analyse much of the information or draw any firm conclusions, but they do already have some clues about the possible origin of the April 30 flare. It was apparently triggered when a gas-filled magnetic "loop" arching over the solar surface, rose up and "collided" with a second loop above it.

In spite of much progress in unravelling the concept of academic freedom, the right to due process of faculty members in some colleges and universities seems to depend on the whims of administrators and trustees. The professors' association has led the fight to convince institutions that they should follow prescribed rules in their treatment of faculty members.

The association has an official power in counsel in institutions where it is represented. It can advise on change its policies, but a vote of censure is meant to inform the public that an institution is not observing generally recognized principles affecting academic freedom. School must show that it has remedied the abuses in order to be removed from the censure list.

Getting the trustees and legislatures to accept the judgment of nine peers on competence to teach is a very important achievement of the association, says Gordon Kurland, association general secretary of the Association, and head of its academic freedom investigation staff.

Some academicians think that moves to protect faculty members are especially important now for two reasons: The growing pressure on colleges and universities to hold down costs, and what some perceive as a shift to the right in national attitudes.

Faculty members at more than 75 per cent of the nation's institutions

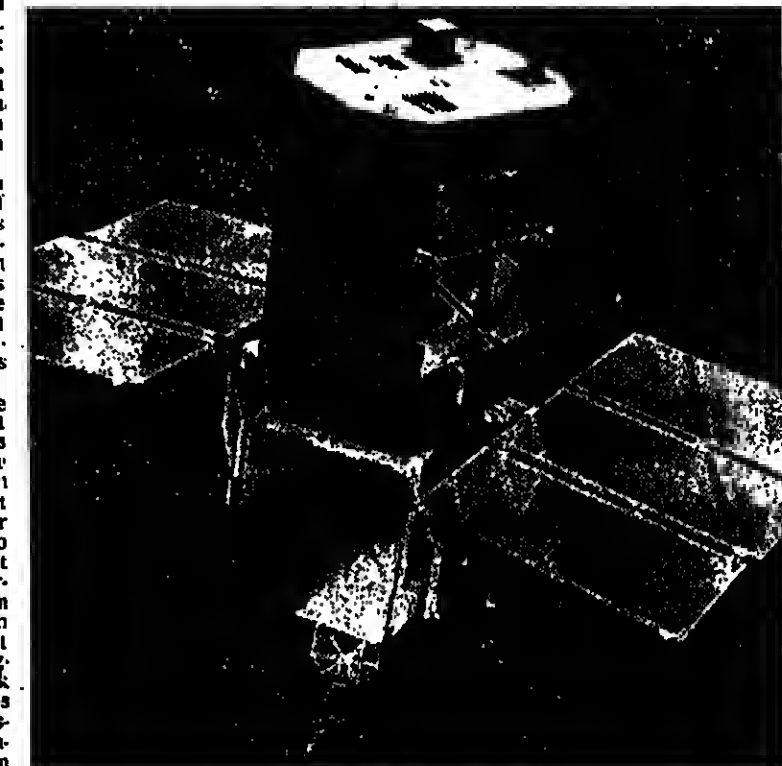
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The Solar Maximum Mission spacecraft, launched February 14.

Drifter Ben quits University of Life

Over the past 18 months Ben Robertson has converted himself from a teenage drifter who had never had a day's formal education in his life into one of the brightest freshmen at one of America's leading state universities, Texas A and M.

Ben, who is not yet 18, must be one of the most unusual of the hundreds of thousands of undergraduates entering major universities in the United States this year. And the story of the way he was adopted by a small Texas town and sent to college is as heart-warming and as American as the hot Texas barbecue.

When Ben drifted into Burnet, Texas (population 2,900), in December, 1978, he had never spent more than a month or two in any one place. He travelled round the country with one or both of his parents during his first 13 years.

They never enrolled him in any school, he says—it is quite possible to keep a child out of school if you keep moving, but his mother taught him to read.

His parents died in violent circumstances when he was 13—his only incident in his life that he will not discuss—and afterwards he was carried on the same sort of existence without them.

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Nichols College in Massachusetts

did not permit a faculty member to complete the academic year after he complained in the student newspaper and to the institution's trustees about being denied tenure.

Philander Smith College in Arkansas dismissed two faculty members, each with at least six years of service, after they appeared before the trustees to present the grievances of students who had boycotted classes in protest of the condition of campus facilities.

Olivet College in Michigan dismissed a faculty member without a hearing in the middle of the semester for allegedly failing to conduct one of his three courses satisfactorily.

These are apparently only a few of many recent violations of academic freedom on the campuses of the nation's institutions of higher education, according to the American Association of University Professors.

In these situations, however, the cases were investigated by the association, which voted last week at its annual meeting to censure the three colleges.

Censure would probably have been voted in the Lynchburg case, but the college, also under pressure from a court suit brought by the dismissed faculty member, finally agreed to resolve the case to the teacher's satisfaction.

All three of the institutions recommended that at this year's annual meeting—Marshall University in West Virginia, Ohio State University and the University of California—were censured in the early 1970s for their treatment of faculty members with controversial political positions.

Angela V. Davis, a philosophy teacher at the University of California at Los Angeles, lost her job in 1970 when the board of agents intervened to block her reappointment. An avowed Communist, Miss Davis had attracted wide attention for her fiery speeches at off-campus rallies.

After a detailed investigation, the Professors' Association concluded that substantial efforts must be made to reestablish at the University of California the unquestioned freedom that is essential to a great university.

Now, after eight years on the association's censure list, the University of California is being removed because its governing bodies have been lax in precluding the regents from reviewing appointments and promotions made locally.

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Early warning on pay problems

More than 400 education officers demonstrated their concern over narrowing pay differentials in attending a meeting of their "trade union" wing at 8.45 on Sunday.

The early start was designed to facilitate business at the conference and was also expected to dampen enthusiasm. In the event, it served to underline the depth of feeling on the subject of pay among the membership of the Association of Education Officers.

A resolution was passed demanding that differentials between teachers and officers should be restored, with the case being put to chairman of local education authority. Meanwhile, the association will continue to press for the

Houghton Differentials Working Party, suspended last year, to be reconstituted.

The officers are concerned that teachers who would previously have progressed into administration now find it financially more rewarding to take less responsible posts in teaching. Some chief education officers earn less than polytechnic and college principals, while those on lower grades are paid less than senior teachers.

Education officers below the rank of deputy have turned down a pay offer of 13 per cent, while those above have asked for "a substantial increase" and are hoping for at least 20 per cent.

Polys 'not ready to compete'

It will be 10 years before the polytechnics are ready for equal competition with the universities, Sir Norman Lindop, director of Hatfield Polytechnic, told the conference.

Sir Norman said he believed the binary system could survive and he wished it to do so until the public sector was capable of holding its own. This was not the case at present, partly because the public sector had been starved of capital

and could not react to change as easily as the universities.

It was an uphill, mainly fruitless task trying to interest local councillors in the affairs of polytechnics, he said. Their position was not helped by the regional advisory councils, which were a force in some areas.

However, he did favour national planning of higher education, although he did not believe further controls were needed by the local authorities.

Merseyside firms get research aid

Liverpool University and Polytechnic have jointly agreed to support the establishment of a Merseyside Innovation Centre which could help to create more jobs in the area.

The aim is to bring together the research activities of the university, the polytechnic and the county council to help local firms introduce new technology and manufacturing activity.

The £400,000 centre is to establish a unit to provide research and development expertise for the local business community and to provide accommodation for tenant organisations.

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Vice-chancellors elect chairman

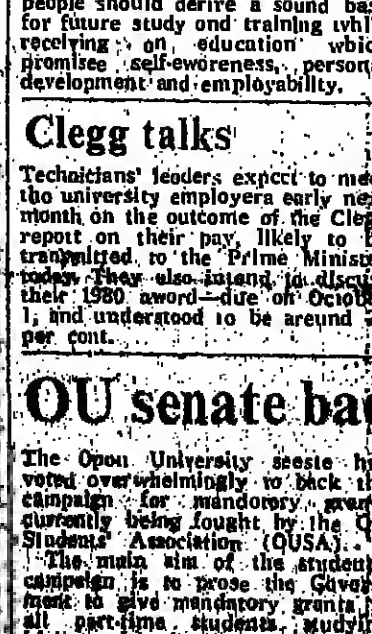


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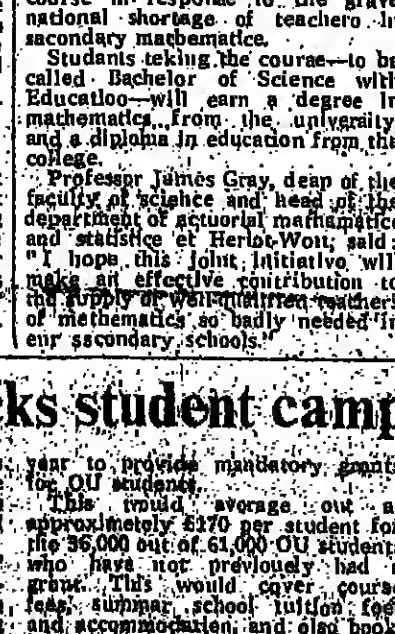


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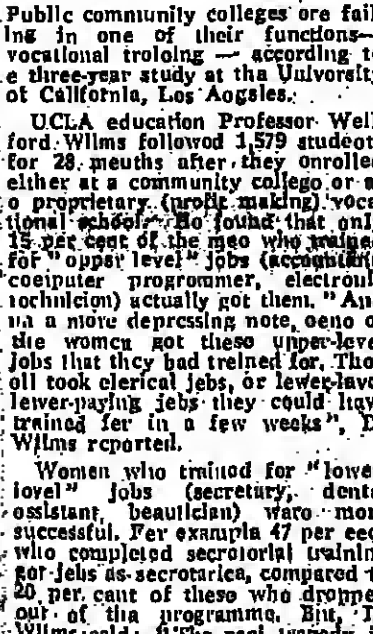


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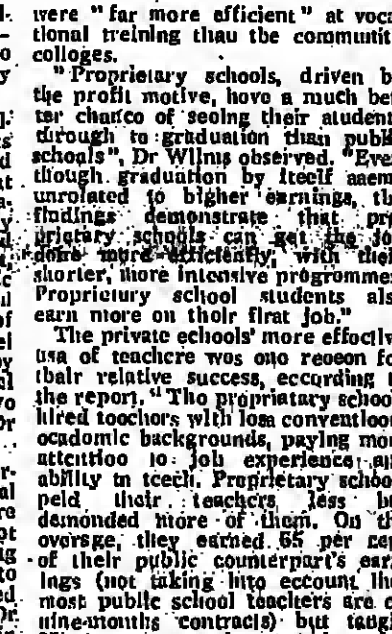


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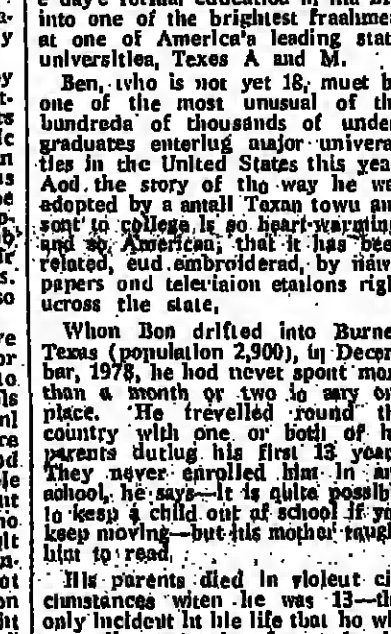


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Looking at the invisible college

techniques. Further, it has forged a strong alliance with the further and adult education services and shown a strong concern for the educationally deprived. Simultaneously, however, it has sought to gain public funding, right of access to the existing time and done little research. In addition, too many students drop out of courses.

The Invisible Collage: NEEC 1963-37 by Janet Jenkins and Hilary Perceton, price £3.20 from International Extension College, 18 Brookland Avenue, Cambridge CB2 2UN.

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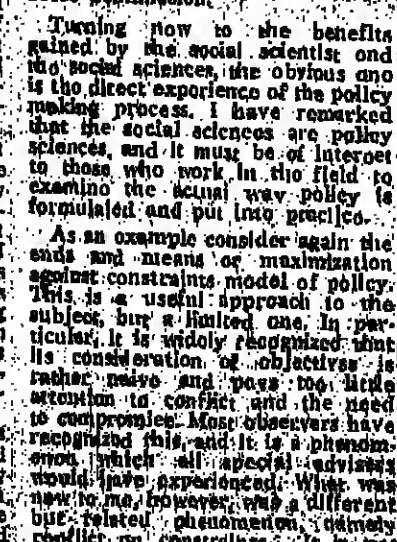
هذه في الحاشية

The average social science researcher must have the talent of Houdini to disappear into three years of PhD study, argues Michael Herbert

Serendipity and a band of lonely hearts

The purpose of this essay is not primarily to ask what Ministers can learn from special advisers, but how they can special advisers help the views of social scientists and what are the dangers. Nonetheless, I must state my view that Ministers should not think that their views are the only opinion that counts. It is a mistake to think that Ministers are the only people who count in the classical land of politicians determining state and civil servants, providing the means.

What is required was ministerial advisers, not just advisers, but advisers on the basis of their own, which are not the only opinion that counts. It is a mistake to think that Ministers are the only people who count in the classical land of politicians determining state and civil servants, providing the means.



On the former the position is clear out, and, unless the law were changed, advisers can no more reveal the details of what happened than anybody else. This means that their acquaintances of experience in the short term must be limited to the general and the anonymous, which

Anyway, it remains true that social science is important for policy. Indeed, no better example could be provided than by the present government who are proceeding on the basis of an extraordinarily simple economic analysis, the empirical foundations of which are doubtful and which could not be

...of which voice Labour would
more (and no less) impress me to
be told that the same result
been arrived at by a group who s
ported Mrs. Thatcher. I would s
assume that the estimated func
was as apuriose as all the ear
ones.

The questions we should ask

Industrial society. Intellectual.

our- In contrast, David's interests were What happens to each of the

requires a student to demonstrate some flexibility to arrive at a specific solution. There is a need for more creative, inventive alternative structured situations from which social science students can undertake their academic research.

The author is a third year student in social sciences at the

The questions we should ask ourselves are: is this state of affairs necessary and is it inevitable? In attempting to provide a suggestive

In contrast, David's interests were very much concerned with the history of the cooperative movement

BOOKS

Soviet indecision in the Czech crisis

Public veto

The restoration of French self-confidence

of political debate." Indeed he does not press his "criticisms hard enough. For Conservative political argument can so easily involve disloyalty to the leadership. Most statesmen are not keen to discuss the incompatibility between free market economy, a stable pound and full employment. While Mr Callaghan tried to raise the issue he got sympathy from his Liberals but not from the Conservatives.

A poet with potential but without direction

test for livability which are reflected
 in his letters, he displayed an open-
 mindedness, breadth of interests,
 versatility of achievement in litera-
 ture, politics, the arts, travel, nature
 and the outdoor life, without a loss
 of a decisive commitment to the
 values of the spirit. He must be ac-
 counted one of the great Americans
 responded to his difficult, complex
 and friends with different expec-
 tations of himself. The tributes from
 his contemporaries are legion. In
 the words of the poet, "The world
 of Stuart Shepard was a new world
 singled out for some transplanted
 performance, to Henry James the
 ideal landscape of English society,
 to Conrad the land of the unknown
 the country, which showed him
 the future of the United States."
 Turner, Prince, Milner, E. M. Forster,
 and even John Galsworthy, the
 Englishman, all could appreciate
 his potential, none but life itself.

Ian Scott-Kilvert

Mr. Scott-Kilvert was formerly
 director of literature at the British

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من المال

BOOKS

To have and to hold onto

by Stephen Hugh-Jones
Cambridge University Press, £12.50
ISBN 0 521 21952 3

[illegible]

of 1,000 in northern Guatemala. It is an account of the ecology and mode of production of a people dependent on humble and arduous. Professor Lee extends his analysis of characteristics of this community to a study of life in prehistoric societies.

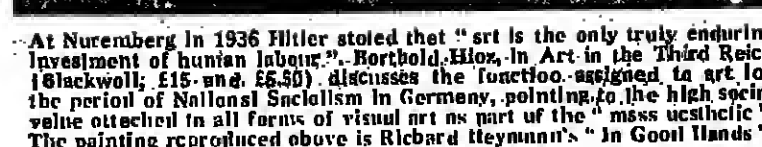
Now Gallner's reviews are always worth reading, but they have their impact as single entries. A reputation is made or a pretension literally but barely maliciously destroyed. A critical context is developed for a book which one has read or which one now knows to be unworthy of the effort. The comments are timely in such a context, useful in guiding one's readers but perhaps more so in the review itself.

They freely violate the logic and grammar of the terms employed. This doubly tested unintelligibility endows them with a depth which inspires awe and admiration in the adepts. No Nor would I commend more than Gellner the mode of presentation which certainly owes more to Elvik Freydo than it does to Tolstoy, Parnok—the tendency to twist and writhen make love

Roy Wallis is professor of sociology at the University of California, San Diego.

empirical. When it breaks empirical, as in some recent religion, he grows heavily existentialist, theology of guard, Martin Buber and Tillich.

Professor Evans claims that the conflicting tendencies within him set up a struggle, is which will triumph, life-affirming or the life-tendencies? as to other people



Religion and morality

empirical. When he threatens religion, he draws heavily on existentialist theology, of Kierkegaard, Martin Buber and Paul Tillich.

Professor Evans claims that even the conflicting tendencies do within him set up a struggle. The issue is "which will triumph: life-affirming, or the life-denying tendencies?" In other words


T. A. Roberts is professor of philosophy at University College Aberystwyth.

D. J. O'Connor

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